

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 04156 231817Z

41

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
----- 038115

P 231720Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3506

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 4156

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PO

SUBJ: AZORES REVOLT

REF: (A) STATE 168102; (B) LISBON 4155

1. IN RESPONSE TO REF A, EMBASSY CONSIDERS JOAO MOTA AMARAL MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE AND LEVEL-HEADED LISBON SOURCE ON THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN THE AZORES. WE HAVE NO WAY OF JUDGING THE CREDIBILITY OF JORGE SOARES MOTA. WE DO NOT KNOW THE FULL EXTENT OF AMARAL'S PERSONAL CONNECTIONS WITH THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT, ALTHOUGH HE CLEARLY IS IN FAVOR OF AND VERY LIKELY PERSONNALLY INVOLVED WITH THE PLOTTERS.

2. INEVITABILITY OF REVOLT: AS TO INEVITABILITY OF REVOLT, WE WOULD DEFER TO PONTA DELGADA'S JUDGEMENT. OUR CONTACTS HERE AGREE THAT A REVOLT CAN ONLY BE AVOIDED IF THE GOP UNDERTAKES A SERIES OF CONCILIATORY MEASURES THAT IT SEEMS HIGHLY UNLIKELY TO CARRY OUT. SHOULD THE LISBON GOVERNMENT MOVE FURTHER LEFT, OUR SOURCES CONSIDER A REVOLT VIRTUALLY CERTAIN.

3. WRITING OFF AZORES: MILD REACTION HERE TO JUNE 6 EVENTS AND APPARENT LACK OF ZEAL ON THE PART OF THE PUBLIC, AFM, AND THE GOP FOR RETAINING AZORES SUGGESTS TO US THAT MAINLAND PORTUGAL'S ATTACHMENT TO AZORES IS MUCH LESS THAN HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT. (PROponents OF THIS POINT OF VIEW CITE THE INDIFFERENCE WITH WHICH THE PORTUGUESE MAN IN THE STREET GREETED THE LOSS OF THE COLONIES.) WE KNOW  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 04156 231817Z

THAT (A) DOUBTS EXIST AS TO WHETHER THE ISLANDS ARE WORTH

THE MILITARY EFFORT REQUIRED TO REGAIN THEM, (B) THERE IS  
SERIOUS QUESTION AS TO MILITARY'S TECHNICAL CAPABILITY  
FOR ATTACKING ISLANDS SUCCESSFULLY, AND (C) MANY FEAR THAT  
MAINLAND TROOPS WILL REFUSE TO ENGAGE IN A DANGEROUS AND  
COMPLICATED OPERATION AGAINST THE ISLANDS. WHEN PPD LEADER GRACA  
MOURA TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT PPD HAS KNOW-HOW TO KEEP THE ISLANDS  
FROM REVOLTING, HIS COLLEAGUE, FORMER SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTER  
SA BORGES, SAID IT WOULD NOT BE WORTH THE PRICE.

4. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE WOULD BE SOME POLITICAL ADVANTAGES  
FOR A DESPERATE GOP TO BUILD THE AZORES ISSUE INTO A CAUSE WITH  
WHICH TO DISTRACT THE POPULATION AND ATTACK THE UNITED STATES.  
WE NOTE THAT TODAY'S PRESS IS FULL OF ARTICLES ABOUT THE AZORES  
SUGGESTING US INVOLVEMENT (REF B). WE BELIEVE A SUSTAINED MEDIA  
CAMPAIGN COULD LEAD TO A CHANGE IN PUBLIC OPINION AND PERHAPS  
A MORE DETERMINED EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE MILITARY TO RETAKE  
THE ISLANDS IN THE EVENT OF A REVOLT.  
CARLUCCI

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic DecapTIONing:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, POLITICAL SITUATION, AZORES, LIBERATION FRONTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JUL 1975  
**DecapTION Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**DecapTION Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975LISBON04156  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X4  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750254-0646  
**From:** LISBON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750730/aaaabapw.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 168102, 75 LISBON 4155  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <12 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AZORES REVOLT  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, PO, (MOTA AMARAL, JOAO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006